

The Great Lakes comprise the largest freshwater ecosystem on Earth. The restoration and protection of the Great Lakes is vital as they contain 95 percent of the surface freshwater in the United States and more coastline than the entire East Coast. To contribute to the restoration of the Great Lakes, over \$1.6 billion has been invested in the region since 2010 by means of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). As one of 15 Federal Agencies collaborating with U.S. EPA to implement this effort, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has been allocated over \$125 million since 2010 to help accomplish restoration goals using its ground-breaking science, data products and services, predictive capabilities, and partnerships.

NOAA is making significant contributions to the restoration of the Great Lakes through the GLRI by expanding and enhancing many existing programs and implementing new innovative projects that address the GLRI Action Plan.

# **GLRI Funded Projects**

#### **Toxic Substances & Areas of Concern**

- Expanded NOAA Mussel Watch in the **Great Lakes**
- Modeling Atmospheric Deposition to the **Great Lakes**
- Great Lakes Sediment Contamination Database Expansion
- · Marine Debris Removal in the Manistique River AOC\*
- Assessment of Areas of Concern Targeted for Remediation

### **Nearshore Health and Nonpoint Source Pollution**

- · Decision Support Tools for Nearshore Water Quality Prediction
- LaMPs and Land Cover Assessment
- Nutrient Runoff Risk Advisory Forecast Tool - Saginaw and Maumee Watersheds



### **Aquatic Invasive Species**

Regional Ecosystem Prediction - Aquatic Invasive Species in the Great Lakes\*

#### **Habitat and Wildlife Protection and** Restoration

- Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Grant Program
- Area of Concern Land Acquisition
- Area of Concern Project Design and Implementation
- Habitat Restoration Partnerships
- Priority Habitat Restoration in Areas of Concern\*

## Accountability, Education, Monitoring, Evaluation, Communication, and **Partnership**

- · Great Lakes Synthesis, Observations, and Response (SOAR)
- Climate Change Impacts, Information, and Outreach
- Supporting Great Lakes Clean Marina Certification Efforts
- Coordinated Science and Monitoring Initiative Support for Lakes Huron and Michigan

\*GLRI Priority Project











http://www.regions.noaa. gov/great-lakes/great lakesrestoration-initiative/

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"We must leave the Great Lakes better for the next generation than the condition in which we inherited them"

- Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan

